

ROCKVILLE REPORTS

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A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

Rockville to Adopt a Semi-Automated, Once-Per-Week Refuse Collection Once-Per-Week Single Stream Recycling Also Adopted

The Mayor and Council voted to collect refuse once-per-week when the new semi-automated refuse collection begins implementation later this year, reversing a decision, made in July 2007 by the previous council, to collect refuse twice-per-week. The Mayor and Council also directed the city manager to develop a plan for a task force to assist with implementing the new collection program.

Neighborhoods that were part of a once-per-week pilot program will return to once-per-week collection beginning January 28, 2008. All other Rockville neighborhoods will transition beginning in October 2008, in three-month phases, with full Citywide implementation occurring over a 12-15 month period. Each phase will allow for education and outreach,

and refuse and recycling cart delivery.

The new "semi-automated" system will employ mechanical lift arms mounted on trucks to hoist the refuse and recycling carts provided by the City. Carts will be available in four sizes for residents to select from. "Knuckleboom" trucks also will be used to assist in collecting bulk items that do not fit in refuse carts and tree branches.

As part of this new program, "single-stream" recycling will be introduced. Single-stream recycling will enable residents to place recyclable materials in a single container. Residents are required currently to sort and set out recyclables separately for pickup.

"Single stream recycling will make it easier for residents to prepare recyclables for collection. We antici-

pate residents will recycle more than they are currently," said Craig Simoneau, Rockville's Director of Public Works.

The fee for the new refuse and recycling service will remain at the current amount of \$32.70 per month. No rate increases are projected until July 2012, when a five cents per month increase is anticipated. Continuing twice-per-week collection would have resulted in annual rate increases projected to reach \$40.70 per month beginning in July 2012.

The Mayor and Council directed the city manager to return with a proposal for a Refuse and Recycling Task Force with a duration of 12 months, subject to renewal. This reversed a previous decision to establish a new Refuse and Recycling Commission. **RR**



TO SERVE AND PROTECT... Rockville welcomes two new police recruits to the police department. From left, Rockville Mayor Susan Hoffmann swears in new police officers Javier Baquero and Marcus Leone on Jan. 7.

GET THE 411 ON ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE... The department consists of 91 positions; 55 are sworn police officers. In the past year, 36,000 initial calls for service were managed; more than 1,200 criminal arrests were handled; officers issued more than 27,000 traffic enforcements; photo technicians issued more than 11,000 red light camera citations; more than 2,700 animal control calls were investigated; and more than 1,900 rental and 4,500 non-rental residential properties were investigated. The police department is actively seeking new recruits. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/police/recruitment.html.

Winter Is Here But It's Not Too Late to Perform a Home Energy Audit Take These Steps to Save Energy, Money, be More Comfortable and Help the Environment

Want to save money on your energy bills this winter and make a difference for the environment? The City of Rockville's Environment Commission recommends all residents perform a do-it-yourself home energy audit to find out if your house is losing energy.

This can lower your energy bills and help conserve limited natural resources at the same time.

1) Locate Air Leaks

Check for air leaks around window frames, doors, electrical outlets, attic hatches, fireplace dampers and baseboards. **Helpful Hint:** If your windows and/or doors rattle, you have a leak. **Helpful Hint:** If you can see daylight between the windows or doors and the wall, you have a leak.

To locate harder to find leaks, close exterior doors, win-

dows and fireplace dampers. Turn off combustion appliances such as gas furnaces and water heaters. Then turn on all exhaust fans (such as those in the kitchen and bathroom) or use a large window fan. Doing this will increase the air infiltration through cracks, so that you can detect them more easily. While fans are on, inspect your home with incense or your damp hand. **Helpful Hint:** If using incense, the smoke will waiver if a leak is present; if using your hand, drafts will feel cool.

On the outside of your house, inspect all areas where two different building materials meet such as exterior corners. Also look for cracks and holes in the mortar foundation and siding. You can seal cracks, holes and other leaks with caulk or weatherstrip. You also can adhere low-cost plastic sheets around leaky windows or doors. **Helpful Hint:** When

renovating, consider replacing existing doors and windows with those that are specifically designed to conserve energy.

2) Assess Insulation Levels

If you have an older home, you may not have enough insulation in your attic, walls or basement to stop heat from escaping. In the attic, check to see:

- if the insulation meets current recommended minimums;
- if the hatch is insulated; and
- if the vents are free and unobstructed.

Make sure that there is a vapor barrier below the attic insulation to prevent moisture from flowing up through the ceiling.

Check your walls to make sure you have sufficient insulation. **Helpful Hint:** Hire a professional to assess insulation levels in walls. If insulation is insufficient, you are losing heat and increasing your energy bill.

If your basement is unheated, make sure the basement ceiling is insulated.

Proper insulation goes a long way to reducing drafts. "The Department of Energy's Consumers Guide to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy states that the potential energy savings from reducing drafts in a home may range from 5 to 30 percent per year," said Heather Gewandter, Rockville's Environmental Technician. "These tips generally make the home much more comfortable afterward too."

3) Maintain Heating & Cooling Systems

Hire a professional to inspect and clean heating and cooling systems annually and replace filters every couple of months. Small maintenance investments could yield huge results from increased performance.

4) Inventory Lighting

In the average household, lighting accounts for about 10 percent of your electricity bill. Consider replacing your incandescent bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights or Light Emitting Diodes, which greatly reduce energy use.

To get more detailed instructions on performing do-it-yourself home energy audits, visit the U.S. Department of Energy's energy audit page at www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/energy_audits/index.cfm/mytopic=11170.

If not the do-it-yourself type, consult with a home energy audit professional. Contact the Maryland Energy Administration for more information on hiring a professional or visit www.energy.state.md.us/energyinformation/energyefficiency/residential/energyaudits.htm. **RR**

• City Government: This Month's Happenings •

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
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A Preview of Some of the Spring Events Rockville Has To Offer

Eggstravaganza

Gather up the children, don't forget the camera, and come to the City of Rockville's spring event, the Eggstravaganza, on Saturday, March 22 from 10-11:30 a.m. at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr.

This event is for children ages 1 through 9 years. Activities include a puppet show, a bunny egg toss, a bunny hop, a treasure hunt and other egg-citing events.

Peter Cottontail will be on hand to welcome and delight all those in attendance.

Concert in the Square

Thursday night concerts in the Square are back! Beginning Thursday, May 1, bands from across the region will perform on the Town Plaza Stage from 6-8 p.m.

These concerts are free.

Rockville Farmers' Market

Country goodness in your backyard!

The Farmers' Market will open on Saturdays beginning May 17; Wednesdays June 4.

The Rockville Farmers' Market has been a great staple in the community. The Market provides residents with an otherwise uncommon opportunity to purchase fresh, natural goods from local farmers directly. The Market presents a unique opportunity to have the convenience and availability of locally grown and organic goods.

The Farmers' Market also will sell bedding plants, cut flowers, preserves, honey herbs, baked goods and more.

Out to Lunch Wednesdays

Out to Lunch Wednesdays will begin June 4. Every Wednesday, from 12-1:30 p.m., the City of Rockville will close one block of East Montgomery Avenue in Rockville Town Center and spice up lunchtime with an eclectic variety of free live music. Food will be available from many local restaurants.

Out to Lunch Wednesdays is more than just a unique lunch option – it's a social outing and great family activity.

Hometown Holidays

More than 40,000 visitors are expected to flock to Rockville Town Center for this year's Hometown Holidays, Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25.

The City of Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department is gearing up for a very eventful spring season. Children of all ages and adults alike will enjoy Thursday night Concerts in the Square, the Farmers' Market and Eggstravaganza. Hometown Holidays, held Memorial Day weekend, is not to be missed. Events will occur in Town Center and other facilities in the City. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/events.



Photo Credit: Eva Jaatmaa



SPRING IS IN THE AIR... (left to right, top to bottom) Support local farmers and pick up fresh produce, herbs, flowers and more at The Rockville Farmers' Market; Join Peter Cottontail for some egg-citing fun on March 22 at the Civic Center Park; Sample different cuisines and indulge a craving at the Taste of Rockville; Take a mid-week break and relax during Out to Lunch Wednesdays; No need to go out of town Memorial Day weekend when Rockville's Hometown Holidays offer entertainment for all ages; Memorial Day weekend would not be complete without the 64th annual Rockville Memorial Day Parade; The Town Square Stage again will host local bands during the free Concert in the Square every Thursday, May through mid-September.

Hometown Holidays is hosted by the City of Rockville Mayor and Council and the Rockville Chamber of Commerce.

Great performances can be enjoyed throughout Town Center. Six stages will feature a wide variety of music from funk to jazz to Latin to pop.

Bouncing, flying and climbing will be on the agenda for children as they enjoy a variety of rides and games at the youth area.

Taste of Rockville

As part of Hometown Holidays, the popular "Taste of Rockville" will return. Celebrate the international culture of Rockville with a sampling of cuisines from more than 20 area restaurants.

The Taste of Rockville is the perfect excuse to indulge that craving or enjoy different cuisines.

Discover some new tastes or some old favorites at this Hometown Holidays favorite offering.

Memorial Day Parade

The weekend-long Hometown Holidays Celebration will culminate with the 64th annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26th.

Prior to the parade, there will be performances by the Rockville Concert Band and Chorus and a Memorial Day ceremony featuring a traditional wreath laying, a 21-gun salute and presentation of colors.

The parade will feature more than 70 different units including marching bands, dance groups, floats, scouts and brownies.

This year's parade will head down North Washington St. to Beall Ave., turn onto Maryland Ave., and will continue through Rockville Town Square.

For the most current information on Rockville events taking place throughout the year, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/events, or call the information line: 240-314-5022



A City stormwater management pond before (above) and after (left) an upgrade. Stormwater ponds can be aesthetically pleasing and help prevent stream erosion and Chesapeake Bay contamination.

Stormwater Management Efforts Continue Open House Meetings Jan. 29 and Jan. 31, Public Hearings Feb. 4

The Mayor and Council's vision for an environmentally sustainable and Chesapeake Bay-friendly community starts with clean stormwater. Staff will update residents on the upcoming Stormwater Management (SWM) Utility Fee during open house meetings at City Hall on Jan. 29 from 3-5 p.m., and Jan. 31 from 6-8 p.m. There also will be a public hearing during the Mayor and Council meeting on Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.

At the sessions, City staff will discuss the proposed SWM Utility Fee rates and changes to the City's SWM law and regulations.

The City provides and maintains SWM treatment facilities and storm drain pipes, stabilizes eroding stream banks and helps reduce pollution of runoff from impervious surfaces (e.g., rooftops, driveways, and parking lots). Rockville's SWM, storm drainage and water quality programs must be expanded to address costly new requirements set by the federal Clean Water Act.

The Mayor and Council voted in November 2006 to expand and consolidate these programs under the City's SWM Fund that has been supported primarily through developer contributions. Staff was directed to implement a SWM Utility fee to cover the additional costs.

In December 2007, the Mayor

and Council introduced enabling legislation for the SWM Utility Fee and are now accepting comments on the proposed rates. A flat rate is proposed for single family-detached house lots based on their imperviousness, and the fee is estimated to be \$55.80 for this year.

If approved, the fee will go into effect in July. Property owners will see it as an add-on fee to their 2008 tax bill, separate from property taxes.

Lise Soukup, Civil Engineer from the Department of Public Works said that two thirds of Rockville's property taxes come from residential owners whereas one third is paid by commercial and institutional properties, such as shopping malls and schools. However, aerial photos show that commercial and institutional properties own more than two thirds of the City's imperviousness, and residential properties account for only one third of this area. This disparity in impervious surfaces puts a greater burden of payment on residential property owners if property taxes, rather than fees, are used to support the SWM programs. The fee will more fairly allocate costs to properties that create the higher demand for SWM, storm drains and water quality protection.

"Our impervious surfaces have increased over the years," said Soukup. "Our streams are

still actively eroding because of developments from 30 and 40 years ago. Dirty, trash-filled streams and flooding could lead to a decrease in property values.

"We also have to meet our responsibility to Maryland's most precious natural resource. We live in the Chesapeake Bay watershed – this is the largest estuary in the world. Runoff carries our fertilizers, pet wastes and sediment into Rockville's streams, which drain into the Potomac River and then to the Chesapeake Bay. The SWM Utility Fee will expand our water quality outreach to both residents and businesses."

Residents will have the opportunity to voice concerns and ask questions. "We invite public comment from both residents and non-residential owners. We will answer questions about the Fee, the benefits of the City's stormwater management, storm drainage and water quality protection programs, and the relative merits of the proposed funding mechanism," said Soukup.

"If residents cannot make the public hearing, they can attend other civic meetings. Also, we invite written comments and phone calls if residents have questions or want to voice concerns."

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov, or contact Lise Soukup, at 240-314-8515 or lsoukup@rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

— by Mya Dinh

Twinbrook Neighborhood Plan – Planning Commission Work Session, Feb. 13

The Planning Commission has scheduled a work session to discuss the transportation elements of the Twinbrook Neighborhood Plan on Wednesday, Feb. 13. The work session begins at 7 p.m. and will be broadcast live on TRC 11 and re-aired throughout the following weeks.

The Draft Plan reflects the community's desire to maintain and enhance the his-

toric residential character of the Twinbrook neighborhood while guiding the future of land currently zoned for commercial and industrial uses. Modifications may be made to the Draft Plan by the Planning Commission as part of the Commission's recommendation to the Mayor and Council.

Copies of the Draft Plan are available free of charge at the Department of Community Planning and Development

Services at City Hall (111 Maryland Ave., second floor). The Draft Plan is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/master-plan/twinbrook/index.html.

No public testimony will be taken during the work sessions, but written comments may be submitted to Robin Wiener, Chair, Rockville Planning Commission, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Md. 20850. **RR**

Rockville's Pike Kick-Off Meeting Generated Broad Participation, Many Ideas Next Opportunity to Become Involved – Workshop, Feb. 26

The planning effort known as *Rockville's Pike: Envision a Great Place* is now underway. The public kick-off meeting, which took place in Dec, was a great success, attracting more than 150 individuals. The meeting generated a rich foundation of ideas that will be used throughout the course of the project to ensure that the plan for the Pike reflects the needs, concerns and vision of the Rockville community.

Following introductory comments by City Manager Scott Ullery and Mayor Susan Hoffmann, the meeting was divided into two main parts. First, a presentation by the consultant team (consisting of ACP – Visioning and Planning, Glatting Jackson Kercher Anglin, and Economic Research Associates)

generally be captured in terms of three broad themes:

- **Improving Transportation** – this includes an array of issues such as traffic congestion, walkability, biking, public transportation and parking.
 - **Promoting Suitable Development** – this involves the types of land uses envisioned by the participants, including retail, housing, mixed use developments, entertainment amenities and civic spaces.
 - **Creating a Unique Sense of Place** – this touches upon issues of urban design, identity, greenery and open space, environmental sensitivity and development regulations.
- These themes will be addressed in detail over the course



A stakeholder is reviewing the Rockville Pike Corridor Area in anticipation of the kick-off meeting to discuss the future of Rockville Pike.

outlined the scope of the project and provided some "food for thought" about what it takes to make a great place in a context such as Rockville's Pike.

Next, meeting participants engaged in an activity known as the "Table Dialogues," in which two questions were answered:

1. What are the most critical issues that must be addressed to make Rockville's Pike and the surrounding area a truly great place?
2. What are some ways to address these issues?

Participants worked in small groups to brainstorm and discuss these questions and summarized and recorded the key points of the discussion. The period concluded with an open question and answer session.

While the ideas collected at the meeting reflect a wide breadth of interests and concerns, input from the kick-off can

of the Rockville's Pike planning process. A full report on the kick-off meeting, including a list of all of the ideas collected, can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike.

The next chance to get involved in Rockville's Pike will be at a Stakeholder Workshop scheduled for Feb. 26 from 7-9:30 p.m. at the Ramada Inn Meeting Center, located at 1775 Rockville Pike. Everyone who lives, works, shops, or travels in Rockville is considered a stakeholder and is encouraged to attend. At the Stakeholder Workshop, participants will engage in mapping exercises to identify the physical strengths and weaknesses along the Pike and discuss some of the critical questions that emerged from the kick-off meeting.

Join your friends and neighbors at the workshop on Feb. 26 and get your ideas on the map. **RR**

The New Richard Montgomery High School Brings Improved Safety Measures New Streetlight and Other Traffic Calming Devices in Place Due to Direct Response to Citizen Concerns

Responding to concerns expressed by Richard Montgomery High School's Pedestrian Safety Committee, the City has installed several new features on Fleet St. designed to enhance pedestrian safety.

In time for the opening of the new high school, several additional safety measures were added to benefit pedestrians. A new sidewalk built on the north side of Fleet St. now connects Jefferson Plaza with Monroe St. and three new medians were added to the intersections of Fleet St./Park Ave. and Fleet St./Jefferson Plaza. Several traffic control devices such as stop signs, school warning signs and new speed limit signs also were added to improve pedestrian safety around the school.

The newly installed traffic signal at the intersection of Richard Montgomery Dr. and Fleet St., will better protect the hundreds of students, buses and vehicles that will drive through that intersection. The funds for building the new signal were included in the fiscal year 2008 Capital Improvements Program. In the fall of 2006, the City's Traffic and Transportation Division began the planning process to make this important safety measure a reality.

After working through several design issues and coordinating with civil engineers led by the school's design team, the signal design was completed



The installation of the new traffic signal at Richard Montgomery Drive and Fleet Street is another measure taken by the City of Rockville to ensure the safety of all students and pedestrians.



Students leaving the new Richard Montgomery High School which opened Jan. 2.

ed and the construction plans were sent out for bid. In Sept. 2007, the Mayor and Council approved the award of the contract and the purchase of materials and equipment began.

Construction commenced in Oct., with a target completion date of late Dec. During those two months, City staff worked closely with the school's contractors who also were working in the same area in preparation for the opening

of the new school building (see picture above). Despite challenges such as coordinating with school construction, pavement work and cold weather, the traffic signal was fully constructed by the end of Dec. PEPCO has scheduled to provide power service to the signal before the end of Jan., and the signal will be operational soon after. The intersection continues to operate as an all-way stop intersection until the signal is activated. **RR**



Staff and youngsters alike have a great time through the Twinbrook and Montrose Discovery preschool programs.

Childcare Available Through Recreation and Parks

Are you looking for a nurturing and caring environment for your 3, 4 or 5-year-old child while you are at work? Maybe you just want your child to be with others their same age to get used to sharing and being around other children? All of this and more are available for you and your child through the Twinbrook or Montrose Discovery preschool programs.

The City of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks has professional and experienced staff (combined with more than 100 years of experience) that go beyond the traditional "babysitting" environment for children.

The children are exposed to a diverse world of language and learning while the staff leads them in a variety of stimulating activities. The youngsters participate in music, cultural activities, arts and crafts, science and nature, cooking, creative play and language learning. These programs are designed to focus on social and academic skills that are necessary

for kindergarten while promoting self-confidence and individual expression. Because of this diverse program, each site welcomes language learning and encourages families to come to the program to share cultural traditions with the children.

Montrose and Twinbrook Discovery are open Monday - Friday and closed on holidays; with an abbreviated schedule during winter and spring break. Montrose Discovery operates around the Montgomery County Public School calendar (August - June) with a 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or 9 a.m.-3 p.m. option. Twinbrook Discovery is a year-round program, operating each day from 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

For additional information, to schedule a visit, or to register, contact Megan Frene, Childcare Programs Assistant, at 240-314-8637 or mfrene@rockvillemd.gov or Glenda Moultrie, Recreation Programs Supervisor, at 240-314-8631 or gmoultrie@rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

Homestead Property Tax Credit Eligibility

Every resident of Rockville will receive a notice with his or her regular property tax bill in the year of his or her reassessment. Included for the first time in the tax bill will be the Homestead Property Tax Credit Eligibility Application that residents will be required to review and fill out.

Residents will have to complete the application to document that the residence for which the Homestead Property Tax Credit applies is their primary residence. For Rockville residents, that reassessment actually does not happen until 2009 or 2010. According to the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (MSDAT), Rockville residents may file the application now

but they strongly encourage residents to file their applications in the year they receive their reassessment notice. It is essential that residents return the Homestead Property Tax Credit form to the state so they receive the exemption and do not have to pay higher taxes.

Below is additional information about the Homestead Property Tax Credit Eligibility that may help familiarize you with the issue:

How Does It Work

The Homestead Property Tax Credit is a state law, which mandates that all taxable assessment increases for homeowner occupied properties cannot increase by more than

10 percent per year.

Residents whose properties are being assessed in either 2009 or 2010 by the MSDAT will receive information along with their tax bill referencing an application that needs to be completed. The application must be submitted in order to ensure that the credit is granted only on eligible properties and not on properties that are rented or used as vacation homes.

What Residents Need To Do

Residents must complete a one-time application in order to continue to receive the property tax credit. The application will be received in the mail with your tax assess-

ment or can be found online at www.dat.state.md.us.

Where to Send Your Application

Residents may submit the application now, but MSDAT strongly encourages that Rockville residents submit the application in either 2009 or 2010 to Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the below address:

301 West Preston Street
Room 900
Baltimore, MD 21201-2395

Online applications also can be filed at www.dat.state.md.us.

Deadlines

Residents are encouraged by the MSDAT to complete the form in the year they are reassessed in 2009 or 2010.

If residents complete the application online, it must be filed by April 1 of the year of their reassessment.

Where To Ask More Questions

A list of Frequently Asked Questions is available to residents at the MSDAT Web site online at www.dat.state.md.us.

You also may contact the Homestead Tax Credit Division at 410-767-2165 or toll free outside of the Baltimore Metro area at 866-650-8783. **RR**

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the
City Government at Work

Mayor and Council Adopted Resolution to Support Maryland's Clean Cars Act

Resolution Voices Support from the Mayor and Council of Maryland's Commitment to Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Vehicles

Maryland's recently adopted Clean Cars Act of 2007, which sets out to reduce greenhouse gases from vehicles, is currently in danger of being rejected by the Environmental Protection Agency. Rockville's Mayor and Council voted to adopt a resolution to support the defense and ultimate implementation of the Act, and to endorse and encourage legal and other action taken by the Governor and the Attorney General.

Maryland has now joined with the state of California in its legal action against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to give states the right to implement and enforce more stringent standards than minimum federal requirements.

In the Strategy for a

Sustainable Rockville, approved by the Mayor and Council on Oct. 1, 2007, the City expressed its intent to inventory and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Rockville.

Governor Martin O'Malley and Attorney General Douglas Gansler have vowed to take advantage of every legal option available to ensure that Maryland's Clean Cars legislation is enacted. The Rockville resolution lends the City's encouragement and support to those efforts.

"We are at one with the State in their effort to implement the Clean Cars Act of Maryland," said Mayor Susan Hoffmann. "This kind of legislation is exactly what Rockville needs to further our Sustainable Rockville Strategy." **RR**



On the dais and off, Rockville's Mayor and Council are working to better the City for all who work, live and visit. On the agenda, adopting a resolution to support Maryland's Clean Cars Act. From left to right: Councilmembers Piotr Gajewski and Phyllis Marcuccio, Mayor Susan Hoffmann, and Councilmembers Anne Robbins and John Britton.



Mayor
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
John B. Britton



Councilmember
Piotr Gajewski



Councilmember
Phyllis Marcuccio



Councilmember
Anne Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Hoffmann, the Councilmember scheduled for February is:

- Feb. 11 (Mon.): Anne Robbins

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel (TRC 11), and are available on streaming video at: www.rockvillemd.gov. Citizens may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizens Forum" portion at most general session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.

- Feb. 4 (Mon.) Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 11 (Mon.) FY09 Budget Work session. No Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 19 (Tues.) Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 25 (Mon.) Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.

Watch Mayor and Council meetings live on



Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Board of Appeals (one)
- Compensation Commission (one)
- Cultural Arts Commission (one)
- Historic District Commission (one)
- Human Rights Commission (two)
- Personnel Appeals Board (one)
- Rec & Park Board (two)
- Retirement Board (two)
- Rockville Sister City (one)
- Sign Review Board (two)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280 or visit rockvillemd.gov.

Rockville and The County Come to an Agreement on Library Parking Fees

Rockville's Mayor and Council unanimously approved an agreement with Montgomery County which will enable the County to provide free parking in the three Town Square public garages for Rockville Library patrons and County employees stationed in the Library building. The agreement will take effect once the City begins to charge for parking in the garages.

For the time being, parking remains free in the three Town Square public parking garages. Payment is required at the on-street parking meters. The parking garages offer almost 1,000 spaces for visitors to spend time in Rockville Town Square visiting the Library, restaurants, stores, VisArts and the Rockville Innovation Center. The blue "P" at the entrances identifies the garages.

As part of the City-County agreement, Rockville will install an automated Pay Station

in the Rockville Library, which will permit patrons to park for free in the Town Square parking garages.

The City will provide the County with 120 "coupon" numbers that can be used to register parking by Library employees and patrons only at the Rockville Town Square parking garages. The coupon numbers will allow for easy tracking of usage.

For Library patrons to park in the garages for free they must select the "15 Minutes Free for Library Patrons" option at a garage Pay Station. When a patron selects this option, the Pay Station will produce a ticket showing the expiration time and the space number, which the patron can take to the Library to register for free parking.

The patron will have 15 minutes to reach the Library Pay Station and register before the system will show that



The Rockville Library, the civic anchor of Town Square.

the parking space has expired. Patrons who do not register will risk receiving a parking ticket. The Library Pay Station will permit free parking for as long as the patron wishes; however, in order to minimize abuse, the patron will only be permitted to register for two hours at a time. A patron wishing to stay longer must return to the Pay Station and register again.

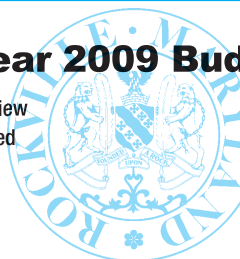
The County will distribute coupon numbers to County employees who work in the Library, with a unique number for each employee. A single coupon number for patrons will be available at the Library Pay Station, and will be usable only at the Library Pay Station.

The City is expected to announce in the near future when parking fees in these garages will begin. **RR**

Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Dates

FEBRUARY 11: Worksession Budget Preview
MARCH 24: Proposed budget presented to Mayor and Council
MARCH 31: Budget Public Hearing

APRIL 14: Budget Public Hearing
APRIL 28: Budget Worksession
MAY 5: Budget Worksession
MAY 19: Budget Adoption



OUT & ABOUT IN ROCKVILLE

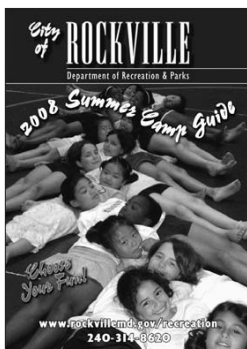
Highlighting City Events and Programs

Camp Guide Has Been Mailed! That Means One Thing for Rockville Kids – Summer Fun Awaits

City kids can make the most out of summer once again with the help of Rockville camps. The Department of Recreation and Parks await campers this season with the return of popular camps, exciting new camps and the launching of an innovative new program, Reach the Beach, designed to promote active and healthy living. The camp guide has been mailed to City residents and registration has begun.

"Rockville camps are as popular as ever," said Jan Golden, Supervisor of Recreation Programs. Golden also said convenient amenities including location, affordable prices, bus transportation at designated sites and affordable before and after childcare have all contributed to the popularity and competitiveness of Rockville camps in the growing camp market.

The most popular camps, which have an athletic and academic emphasis, will return this summer. These camps include Super Stars (formerly Sports of All Sorts), a games and sports program for campers ages 5-7; Gymnastics for ages 6-12; Camp Challenger,



The Camp Guide is here and full of new offerings for your child to enjoy their summer.

a science and rocketry camp; and Betr Science and Betr Computer.

In efforts to meet evolving interest of increasing campers, Golden noted the addition of exciting new camps, which include Dance Combo for ages 5-8; UK Sports Week, featuring popular British and Irish sports; evening badminton; and teen volleyball.

"We also are very excited about the addition of 'Reach the Beach'," said Golden. Reach the Beach is designed to encour-

age kids to be healthy and stay active this summer. Campers will be issued a pedometer to tally their daily steps, and a weekly total will be combined until they have enough steps to reach the beach as a group. The 'sneaker symbol' will indicate the inclusion of Reach the Beach in the participating programs.

"We are constantly tracking trends, demographics and interest to change and make camp more rewarding for all the campers," said Golden. This year, Golden wants to encourage parents to register their child for camp because, "it is a great opportunity for the children to have fun, be active, meet new friends, learn new skills and have a memorable summer."

Camps are scheduled to begin June 16 and run through August. Registration for residents is underway and non-residents may begin registering on Feb. 6. Campers can register at the office, by mail, fax or online at www.rockvillemd.com. For more information, visit the City's Web site or call 240-314-8620. **RR**

— by Mya Dinh

Community Celebrated the Legacy and Vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Winners of the volunteerism awards and actor Jim Lucas helped more than 600 guests from the area remember the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the 36th annual Dr. King's birthday celebration on Jan. 21.

Mayor Susan Hoffmann, Chairman of the Rockville Human Rights Commission Theo Anderson, other members of the commission and community and church leaders addressed the audience that filled Rockville High School. The celebration entertained audiences with musical performances by local choirs and included the Duke Ellington School of Arts Show Choir. The Mount Calvary Baptist Church presented a Puppet Ministry and the Duffie Elementary School lead the audience in song at the conclusion of the ceremony.

A rousing presentation of Dr. King's last speech, 'I've Been to the Mountain Top' by actor Jim Lucas and memorable speeches from winners of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Award and the F. Michael Taff Award also were part of the event.



The Duke Ellington School of the Arts Show Choir entertained the audience with a rousing performance of song and dance.

Noah Lidell, a senior at Richard Montgomery High School, was given the Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Award in appreciation of his active participation in Bikes for the World, an organization that works to promote ecologically and economically sustainable methods of transportation in developing nations.

The ceremony also honored Rob Guttenberg, the recipient of the F. Michael Taff award. Guttenberg is an educator and creator of various workshops that promote disability awareness. Guttenberg often works with families facing learning, mental and physical disabilities.

He was recently certified as one of only eight facilitators in the country to provide disability training. As someone who lives with significant physical and cognitive impairments, Guttenberg serves as a role model and inspiration for many.

Janet Kelly, Rockville's Human Rights and Community Mediation Administrator, said, "A very important trait about this ceremony is that it serves to help remind everyone of Dr. King's vision. The winners of these awards give us an example and really help us to see what each person can do to continue Dr. King's dream." **RR**

— by Mya Dinh



The FINEST! in rehearsal for their performance of "The Wiz"

Dorothy Shines in African American Production of 'The Wiz'

Local Scene and Hip-Hop Music in Adaptation of 'The Wizard of Oz'

The African American experience is reflected in an adaptation of Frank Baum's well known, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in a performance entitled, "The Wiz". It will be presented by The FINEST! Youth Performance Troupe at the 13th Annual African American Heritage Production on Friday, Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

"The Wiz" is a Broadway musical adapted by Ken Harper that featured an exclusively African American cast. Music and lyrics for the show are by Charlie Smalls and starred Broadway actress Stephanie Mills. In 1978, the musical was adapted into a motion picture that starred Richard Pryor, Michael Jackson and Diana Ross in the role of Dorothy, with music by Quincy Jones.

The FINEST!'s performance will have modern and local interpretations, which include Dorothy and other cast members dancing to hip-hop music.

"The Wiz" is the most ambitious work we've tried as far as performance and costumes," said Karen Rawlins, Community

Recreation Programs Supervisor. "Also this is the first time The FINEST! will be performing scripted work that is not original."

Kashi-Tara and Kelly Chauncey, Equity actor professionals, are the artistic directors and choreographers. The performance will feature 40 participants of The FINEST! ranging in age from 5-years-old through adulthood. The troupe originally started as "Maryvale's Finest", an after school performance arts group at Maryvale Elementary School in east Rockville.

Today, Rawlins said the troupe is fortunate to have very talented performers from all over Rockville and the surrounding area, some of whom are local recording and semi-professional artists and singers.

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is located at 603 Edmonston Dr. General admission for the show is \$12, \$7 for children ages 12 and under, and \$7 for seniors ages 60 and over. For more information about this event, call 240-314-8633. **RR**

— by Mya Dinh

Families Deserve a Special Valentine Too

Valentine's Day is not just for couples anymore and the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center (TCRC) encourages spending the holiday with family and friends. The entire family is invited to the sixth annual "Heart-to-Heart" Valentine's Dance on Feb. 9 at 7 p.m.

The Heart-to-Heart dance is a place for families and friends to get together, catch up and have a good time.

Martha Coester, supervisor of the TCRC said, "Staff enjoys the success of teamwork in planning an event which gives parents and

children an opportunity to be together on Valentine's Day. The most memorable part of the evening is seeing the kids dancing and playing games all night."

The party will have crafts tables where guests can make valentines for loved ones, dancing games hosted by a DJ and sweet refreshments served all night. Attendants are encouraged to wear red to show spirit for the holiday. The TCRC is located at 12920 Twinbrook Parkway in Rockville. Admission is \$2. For more information about this event, call 240-314-8830. **RR**

— by Mya Dinh

In Brief

Parents with Teens Workshop Available

Many parents find strangers in their homes when their children become teenagers. What happened? What can be done to bring back a sense of cooperation and find peace?

Parents of teens are invited to attend a workshop entitled, "Encouraging Your Teen." The presenter, Betty Brach, LGPC, sees the teen years as a major challenge in parenting. Brach will assist parents in looking at and practicing strategies for helping teens find their way.

Come and learn how to create an environment that builds trust and fosters communication. The workshop will consist of two sessions, Feb. 21 and Feb. 28 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the Azalea Room at the Rockville Senior Center, located at 1150 Carnation Dr.

Register online through RockvilleMD.gov (course #24061) or call Cynthia Bangali at 240-314-8317 for additional information. The cost is \$10 for residents, \$15 for non-residents.

CALL 240-314-8317 FOR INFO

Six-Month Events Calendar Available

A free calendar with details on major City events is now avail-

able at City facilities and participating area businesses.

The City of Rockville 2008 Bi-Annual Events Calendar features information on the dozens of events offered each month in the City.

To list an event or receive a free copy, call 240-314-8116 or E-mail kosullivan@rockvillemd.gov

CALL 240-314-8116 FOR INFO

On Exhibit at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery

February is a great month to stay indoors and take in some art. The February Art Gallery exhibit is from Feb. 3-26.

Meet the Artists/Opening Reception is Sunday, Feb. 3 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Artists include: Carolyn Jean - assemblage: works on paper; Patricia Autenrieth - studio art quilts; and Yonina Blech-Hermoni and Lee Gorsky - fabric bags/clay bags.

CALL 240-314-8682 FOR INFO

The RRYO Holding Auditions, Feb. 13.

The Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra (RRYO) is holding auditions for fourth through ninth grade student musicians on Feb. 13 at the Glenview Mansion from 5-8 p.m.

To audition for the RRYO, musicians must demonstrate proficiency by playing musical

scales, solo selections and sight reading.

Audition fee is \$10. See *Focus on the Arts* insert, pg. 2 or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov for more information.

CALL 240-314-8682 FOR INFO

Free Sunday Afternoon Concert at the Mansion

Enjoy sultry sounds of Latin and blues rhythms with The Lovejoy Group on Feb. 3 at 2 p.m.

The Glenview Mansion, located at 603 Edmonston Dr., is happy to welcome vocalist, Karen Lovejoy; guitarist, Tony Harrod; bassist, Bill Branch; and featured drummer, Vernon Mosby for a free concert.

CALL 240-314-8682 FOR INFO

Free Rockville Chorus Performance

Community Ministries of Rockville is sponsoring a benefit for Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP), on Sunday, Feb. 10 at 3 p.m.

The concert, held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville located at 100 Welsh Park Dr. is free but donations are appreciated.

Performers will include the Rockville Chorus, Hearts of Maryland Chorus and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville Choir.

CALL 240-314-8682 FOR INFO



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- Planning Commission Meetings
- City Hall Report & Cityline
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Belward Master Plan Seeks Rockville Input

A series of Community Planning Workshops are scheduled for Feb. 7-9 to discuss the future of the Belward Research Campus and the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center. The Belward Research Campus, formerly the Banks Farms, is 108 acres of land in Montgomery County. The land is on Rt. 28 between Key West Ave. and Muddy Branch Rd.

The purpose of these workshops is to receive community input before a new master plan

is created. The goal is to create a world-class research campus that promotes a research community that advances applied science. The campus will feature a mix of uses (mainly education, research, and business with some supporting retail and residential) and embrace smart growth principles.

The workshops will be held at the Johns Hopkins University Montgomery County Campus, 9601 Medical Center Dr., Rockville, Md. 20850.

For more information, contact Robin Ferrier at rferrier@jhu.edu.

CALL 301-315-2896 FOR INFO

ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville's Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Service charges apply.

1 Rockville Little Theatre's "Arcadia" 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

9 Tamburitzans The Duquesne University Tamburitzans are dedicated to the preservation of the music, song and dances of eastern Europe and neighboring cultures. 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

10 Rockville Concert Band: Winter Concert "Swingtime" Rockville's premier 75-member band performs a free winter concert. 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

15-24 Victorian Lyric Opera Company's "The Elixir of Love" Donizetti's delightful comedy is filled with music that is sure to enchant (in English) 8 p.m. (Sundays at 2 p.m.) F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

19 13th Annual African American Heritage Production "The Wiz!" Adaptation of "The Wizard of Oz" 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

NATURE

All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.

13 Junior Naturalist Club - Environmental Science Interested in exploring the natural world? Then join the Junior Naturalist Club at Croydon Creek! Each month we will investigate new topics and learn the skills to become true naturalists.

February calendar of events

RES = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

Participants who complete all nine courses will earn an official Junior Naturalist T-shirt. Dress for the weather, as time will be spent outdoors. Advance registration. 4-5:30 p.m. Ages 11-14. \$12 RES/\$14 NR.

16 All About Owls Most owls are nocturnal and hunt for prey at night. Discover other interesting owl facts, dissect an owl pellet, and meet our Eastern Screech Owl. Please dress for the weather as we may journey outdoors for a hike. Register by 2/9. 1-2:30 p.m. Ages 7-11. \$8 RES/\$10 NR.

21 Tiny Tot Walk - Snow Stories Animals leave behind stories in the snow. Learn about animal tracks and how to read them. Participants will spend time outdoors so dress for the weather. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 2-3½. \$6 RES/\$7 NR.

21 Tyke Hike - Snow Stories 1-2 p.m. Ages 3½-6. \$6 RES/\$7 NR.

23 Scout Badge Day - Bear Cubs Sharing Your World With Wildlife Naturalists can help you complete all necessary requirements to achieve the 'Sharing Your World with Wildlife' badge. All materials are provided, however, badges are not supplied by the Nature Center. 10 a.m.-12 noon QR 2-4 p.m. 240-314-8771.

24 Winter Hike Enjoy the quiet of winter on the grounds of the John G. Hayes Forest Preserve with a naturalist-led hike. Register by 2/20. 1-2 p.m. Ages 16-over. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

SENIORS

All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800.

6 February Birthday and Anniversary Party 1:30-3 p.m. FREE MEM/RES/\$2 NR. Register by Jan. 30.

6 Colorectal Cancer 1-2 p.m. FREE

6 Clarify Computer Concepts 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5 MEM/\$7 RES/\$10 NR

7 Use and Demo of Burners 1-4 p.m. \$6 MEM/\$8 RES/\$10 NR

7 Cooking - Light and Tasty II 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$22 MEM/\$28 RES/\$35 NR. Register by Jan. 31.

8 Whoosh Down Whitetail Trip 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$30 MEM/\$37 RES/\$47 NR. Register by Jan. 8.

11,13,20 e-Mail Nuts and Bolts 1-3 p.m. \$24 MEM/\$30 RES/\$36 NR

12 Keyboard and Mouse (beg) 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE MEM/RES/\$3 NR

12 Organizing Collections 10:30 a.m.-12 noon \$4 MEM/\$5 RES/\$6 NR. Register by Feb. 5.

13 Not So Newlywed Game 1-2:30 p.m. FREE MEM/RES/\$3 NR. Register by Feb. 6.

13 PowerPoint Workshop 10 a.m.-12 noon FREE MEM/RES/\$2 NR

14 Out For Lunch Trip 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. \$25 MEM/\$31 RES/\$36 NR. Register by Jan. 8.

19,21 Word Processing (beg) 10:30 a.m.-12 noon \$5 MEM/\$7 RES/\$10 NR

20 Skype/Webcams 10 a.m.-12 noon FREE

20, Mar. 19 Jefferson Café 2-3 p.m. FREE MEM/RES/\$2 NR. Register by Feb. 13.

20 Brass Rubbing Workshop 10:30 a.m.-12 noon \$12 MEM/\$15 RES/\$19 NR. Register by Feb. 13.

21 Save/Find/Copy/Move Documents 1-3 p.m. \$5 MEM/\$7 RES/\$10 NR

21 Macular Degeneration 1-2 p.m. FREE

21,28 Experimental Watercolor 1-3 p.m. \$12 MEM/\$15 RES/\$19 NR. Register by Feb. 14.

25,27 Mar. 3 Digital Photography I 10 a.m.-12 noon \$35 MEM/\$44 RES/\$55 NR

26 Balancing Risk and Return 10 a.m.-12 noon FREE

26 Paris Is Out at Rainbow Trip 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. \$84 MEM/\$104 RES/\$156 NR. Register by Jan. 8.

26,28 Mar. 4 Internet Searching Success 10 a.m.-12 noon \$24 MEM/\$30 RES/\$36 NR

28 Right Click- Left Click 1-3 p.m. \$5 MEM/\$7 RES/\$10 NR

29 Decoupage: Cabinet No. 40 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$8 MEM/\$10 RES/\$12 NR. Register by Feb. 22.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

2 Board of Appeals 9:30 a.m.

6 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee 7:15 p.m.

12 Environment Commission 7:30 p.m.

12 Human Services Advisory Commission 7:30 p.m.

13 Rockville Sister City Corporation 7:30 p.m.

13,27 Planning Commission 7 p.m.

13 Cultural Arts Commission 7 p.m.

19 Rockville Seniors, Inc. 1 p.m. 1150 Carnation Dr.

20 Rockville Housing Enterprises 6:30 p.m. 621-A Southlawn Ln.

21 Senior Citizens Commission 10 a.m. 1150 Carnation Dr.

21 Historic District Commission 7:30 p.m.

22 Recreation and Park Advisory Board 7 p.m. Rockville Library

26 Traffic and Transportation Commission 7:30 p.m.

27 Human Rights Commission 7 p.m.

Rockville Up Close: REDI Celebrates 10 Years

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) is a public-private partnership formed by the City of Rockville to strengthen and broaden the City's economic base through business recruitment, retention and expansion programs. Formerly known as the Greater Rockville Partnership, the economic development organization adopted its new name in 2004 to emphasize its mission, purpose, and services. REDI is currently celebrating 10 years of supporting the growth and prosperity of businesses in the City.

"Rockville's location and highly educated workforce make it a terrific place to do business," said Sally Sternbach, Executive Director of REDI. "We are proud to be home to biotechnology companies that are developing cures for major diseases; professional services firms that offer information and technology, legal and accounting services; state-of-the-art health care companies and many more. The City offers many opportunities for all of our diverse businesses here."

Rockville is committed to economic development and through REDI is proactive in its efforts to support existing industry and attract new businesses. There is no charge for REDI's services. REDI offers guidance and support to ensure that business ventures in this City are successful.

Here are some ways REDI helps businesses succeed:

- Site selection: REDI provides businesses with a source of confidential guidance for business expansion or relocation.
- Fast track development: REDI maintains strong relationships with the City of Rockville, Montgomery County and the State of Maryland, enabling the organization to coordinate with appropriate departments to better assist businesses in expediting projects.
- Demographics, real estate data, and trends: REDI acts as a resource for information on topics ranging from demographics to development trends for Rockville, Montgomery County and Maryland.



- Financing: REDI facilitates access to public and private financing opportunities and economic incentive programs for new or expanding businesses.
 - Workforce development: REDI is a liaison to publicly provided employee recruitment and training services.
 - Networking and referrals: REDI connects companies with local, public and private leaders who are willing to share experiences and provide assistance to other companies.
- In addition, REDI operates a number of special programs including:
- The StartRight! Women's Business Plan Competition - This competition is for women business owners in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. and encourages women entrepreneurs in the early stages of business development to create a detailed business plan, a key factor in starting a successful business.
 - The Rockville Innovation Center's Sponsorship Program - REDI helped

establish the Rockville Innovation Center, and developed the first sponsorship program in the Montgomery County incubator system to create opportunities for the incubator's entrepreneurs to connect with and benefit from local established businesses.

- REDI Seminar Series - Held in the Rockville Library, these free and low-cost seminars cover important business topics such as how to write a business plan, choosing a franchise opportunity and marketing a company.
- The Annual Post-Docs Conference and Career Fair - This annual conference for post-doctoral fellows in federal and university labs aims to connect these highly educated potential employees with area companies that wish to attract and retain a high quality workforce.

For more information, visit www.rockvilleredi.org, call 301-315-8096 or visit REDI's office at 95 Monroe St., Rockville, Md. 20850. **RR**

Volunteer Time:



A Big Thank You To All Senior Center Holiday Bazaar Supporters!

The 24th Annual Rockville Seniors, Inc. Holiday Bazaar raised \$3,527 for the Senior Center. The money raised will help support year-round programs the center offers to the senior community.

More than 60 volunteers worked on this event which was open to the public and included 30 handmade craft vendors, homemade food and baked goods and items for sale in the Thrift and Gift Shops. Staff also would like to thank the sponsors of the Holiday Bazaar raffle.

These sponsors are:

- SAMS Club
- Normandie Farm
- Safeway Corporate Office
- Falls Grove Safeway
- King Farm Safeway
- Wal-Mart
- Costco
- Magruder's
- O'Donnells
- Sushi Damo
- Bed, Bath & Beyond
- Red Lobster
- Ben & Jerry's
- Blockbuster
- Trader Joe's
- The Papery
- Rockville Seniors, Inc.
- Triple F Club
- Young in Heart Club

The Senior Center is located at 1150 Carnation Dr. **RR**



People of all ages shopped at the Senior Center Holiday Bazaar

Update on Rockville's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

As reported in the December 2007 issue of *Rockville Reports*, the City of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks is updating its Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. The PROS Plan is a long-range policy document that sets 20-year goals and objectives for the department.

To date, the department has provided several opportunities for residents to comment on this important endeavor including two public open houses in October and eleven online surveys, which will be available until January 31, 2008 at www.rockvillemd.gov/pros/#survey.

[rockvillemd.gov/pros/#survey](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/pros/#survey).

Staff from Environmental Resource Management (ERM), the consultant preparing the plan, has reviewed the City's current Neighborhood Master Plans to provide recommendations for the plan and researched best management practices.

The next steps in the study process include focus group meetings with community groups and stakeholders to discuss specific issues on topics such as safety, diversity, new initiatives, marketing and methods to increase participation. These

meetings are scheduled for late January and February and will include seniors, teens, boards and commissions, multi-cultural communities, other local jurisdictions, sports leagues and civic associations.

Later this winter, 350 randomly selected households in Rockville will be asked their opinions when a telephone survey is conducted as part of the study process. The survey will last 10-12 minutes and City staff hope the public will provide information on the parks use, programs and facilities as well as

ideas for improvement. "This plan provides direction for how we deliver our services for the next 20 years. We need input from the community to ensure their desires are met," said Burt Hall, Director of Recreation and Parks.

Rockville Reports will continue to publish updates to the PROS Plan. For the most up-to-date information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/pros/scope.htm or contact Steve Mader, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities, at 240-314-8702 or smader@rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

TRC 11		THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						✂️ -- CLIP & SAVE --	
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▾	Historic District Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Historic District Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾		
6 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 a.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
7 a.m.	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾	On Patrol Encore	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾	On Patrol Encore	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾	On Patrol Encore	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾		
7:30 a.m.	▾	Zoning 101	▾	Zoning 101	▾	Zoning 101	▾		
8 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
8:30 a.m.	Historic District Commission ▾	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▾		
9 a.m.	▾	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾	COG Futures Forum ▾	MLK Day Celebration ▾	COG Futures Forum ▾	MLK Day Celebration ▾	▾		
10 a.m.	▾	On Patrol Encore	Zoning 101	Zoning 101	Zoning 101	▾	▾		
10:30 a.m.	▾	City Diversity: African Americans	City Diversity: African Americans	City Diversity: African Americans	City Diversity: African Americans	City Diversity: African Americans	▾		
11:30 a.m.	On Patrol Encore	Zoning 101	On Patrol Encore	Zoning 101	On Patrol Encore	Zoning 101	On Patrol Encore		
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
12:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
1 p.m. until meeting ends	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council	Historic District Commission	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission ▾		
4 p.m.	MLK Day Celebration ▾	▾	COG Futures Forum ▾	MLK Day Celebration ▾	▾	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾	▾		
5 p.m.	▾	COG Futures Forum ▾	Zoning 101	▾	Zoning 101	On Patrol Encore	Zoning 101		
5:30 p.m.	Zoning 101	On Patrol Encore	On Patrol Encore	On Patrol Encore	On Patrol Encore	Zoning 101	On Patrol Encore		
6 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
7 p.m.	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	MLK Day Celebration ▾	Planning Commission ▾	City Diversity: African Americans Heart & Soul:AR07 (on Thurs.)	Mayor & Council ▾	MLK Day Celebration ▾		
8:30 p.m.	▾	▾	▾	▾	▾	▾	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾		
9 p.m.	▾	▾	Heart & Soul:AR07 ▾	▾	▾	▾	▾		
9:30 p.m.	▾	▾	▾	▾	Zoning 101	▾	Zoning 101		
10 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
10:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
11 p.m.	COG Futures Forum ▾	On Patrol Encore	City Diversity: African Americans	On Patrol Encore	COG Futures Forum ▾	On Patrol Encore	City Diversity: African Americans		
11:30 a.m.	▾	Zoning 101	Zoning 101	Zoning 101	▾	Zoning 101	▾		

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Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.